

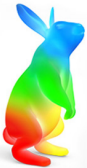
March 2014

IN THIS EDITION



Last Broadway Voices show of season March 15. See page 3.

Google fiber



Town staff working with Google to bring ultra-fast Internet to Garner. See page 4.

TOWN HALL CALENDAR

March 18: Town Council meeting (7 p.m.)

March 25: Town Council work session (6 p.m.)

Meetings are in the Council Chambers in building B at Town Hall, 900 Seventh Ave. Town Council meetings are recorded and broadcast (not live) on GTV (Time Warner 11, AT&T U-verse 99).



Follow us on Twitter (@TownofGarner) and Facebook (facebook.com/TownofGarner); watch Town videos on our YouTube channel.

GARNER

UPDATE

Vol. 63, No. 69

NC LEAGUE
OF MUNICIPALITIES

HOMETOWN SHOWDOWN



Season 10 American Idol and rising country music star Scotty McCreery poses with Mayor Ronnie Williams during a visit to the mayor's office in Town Hall on Scotty McCreery Day in Garner on May 14, 2013. The Town has entered this photo in the N.C. League of Municipalities' Hometown Showdown Facebook contest.

Garner Needs Your Support to Win Facebook Photo Contest

Show your pride in Garner by voting in the N.C. League of Municipalities' Hometown Showdown contest on the League's Facebook photos page (<http://on.fb.me/1g0MX5x>).

Each participating town submitted a photo that reflects its community pride. The object is to get more LIKES for your photo than the town that you're matched up against each week.

Round 2 of the Hometown Showdown against Clayton is this week (March 10-14), with voting for this round ending noon Friday. The

"meter" is reset at the beginning of each new round, so you can vote by LIKING our photo in every round.

Our photo of Scotty McCreery and Mayor Ronnie Williams represents the way we work hard in Garner, follow our dreams and give back to the community. It represents being grounded and remembering where we come from.

So vote for an All-America City. Vote for Garner! (And please share the Facebook link and encourage your friends to vote.)



Look for updates on the Hometown Showdown and other things happening this spring on garnernc.gov.



A Message from the Mayor



Watch the mayor's "Great People in Garner" on GTV (Time Warner 11, AT&T 99) and on demand at garnernc.gov and youtube.com/townof-garner.

If I remember correctly, our friend Mortimer told us we'd have one more cold spell then an early



spring. I'm not sure where we are with that. As I write this, our weather is still giving us something of a roller-coaster ride. But I'm hopeful that spring is just around the corner.

It won't be long before the new season's special events are upon us,

events such as the Spring Egg-stravaganza (April 12—egg hunt at noon!) and the Music off Main Downtown Concert Series on the GPAC back lawn.

Spring is also a great time to get out and exercise, and what better places are there than the trails at Lake Benson and White Deer parks, the South Garner Greenway (which connects to White Deer Park) and the vast network of sidewalks all over town?

The Garner Bond Program will

will make even more sidewalks and greenways a reality in the coming years. I was very pleased to learn at the recent Town Council retreat that citizens will be able to track the progress of bond projects by visiting garnerbonds.com.

Things keep getting better and better in Garner, with lots of very positive changes still on the horizon. Enjoy your spring!

Ronnie S. Williams

Special Spring Trash Pickup Starts March 31

Garner's spring unprepared trash and yard waste collection begins March 31. Residents can place yard waste and some bulky waste items including televisions, computer equipment and up to four rimless tires along their curbs for this special pickup. Other household appliances will not be accepted, nor will hazardous wastes.

The pickup schedule is:

* Monday, March 31 for Monday's red and gray and Wednesday's orange and white routes.

* Monday, April 7 for Thursday's purple and yellow routes and Friday's brown route.

* Monday, April 14 for Friday's blue route and Tuesday's green, gold and tan routes.

For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at (919) 772-7600.

Med Drop Event Set for March 22

The Garner Police Department will sponsor an Operation Medicine Drop event on Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, Building B (900 Seventh Ave.).

The event offers citizens the opportunity to safely dispose of expired and unneeded prescription and over-the-counter medications without any questions asked. There is no charge for the disposal service,



which helps prevent accidental poisonings, substance abuse and protects our waters.

For more information, contact Sgt. Chris Adams at (919) 773-6072.

TOWN OF GARNER BOND PROGRAM

Get Bond Program Updates Online

As Town staff continue their work on projects in the Town of Garner Bond Program such as a new police headquarters, an indoor recreation center in downtown Garner and various sidewalk projects around town, they have created a new document to track the progress of their efforts. Staff shared the document with Town Council at the elected

leaders' annual retreat last month. It has been posted at garnerbonds.com. The document will be updated every couple of months.

Construction on the police station will start in June with a May 2015 completion date. Garner voters overwhelmingly approved the \$35.7 million Bond Program last March.



Chamber Business Expo to be April 10

The Garner Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Town of Garner, is preparing to host its eighth annual Business and Consumer Expo on Thursday, April 10 at Garner United Methodist Church (201 Methodist Drive).

Taking place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Expo will be a powerful business-to-business and business-to-consumer showcase providing local businesses with a full day dedicated to promoting their brands. In addition, consumers will have the opportunity to learn about local Garner businesses and the services offered.



"Many underestimate the power of face-to-face communication in this day and age," said Neal Padgett, president of the Garner Chamber of Commerce. "Expos of this caliber prove again and again that although we live in a tech-savvy

world, nothing is more impactful than learning about a business through in-person interactions."

Attendees will be able to network with local business owners, connect with other attendees and will have multiple chances to win various giveaways offered by vendors. Admission is free to the public.

For additional information about the Garner Chamber of Commerce Business and Consumer Expo, please contact Denise Nowell at (919) 772-6440 or by e-mail at dnowell@garnerchamber.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Tony Nominee Closes Out Broadway Voices Season at GPAC

The last show of the Broadway Voices season features Christiane Noll on Saturday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Garner Performing Arts Center. Noll starred on Broadway in the Kennedy Center revival of "Ragtime," receiving Tony and Drama Desk award nominations and earning a Helen Hayes award. The award-winning Broadway Voices series, highlighted in Garner's winning All-America City campaign, is made possible by a partnership among the Garner Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Garner and arts advocates in the community. For tickets, visit garnerperformingartscenter.com.



You can follow GPAC on Twitter (@GPACGarner) and Facebook.



Eureka! Brings Math to Life in Special GPAC Show March 27

Sara is your typical teenager—good student, stellar athlete—but lately, she's been struggling with her math classes. On the eve of a big test, she's visited by some of the luminaries of the mathematical world, including Albert Einstein, Blaise Pascal, Lady Ada Lovelace and Pythagoras, who show her how math is part of the world. **REGISTER NOW** for this fun educational event to be held Thursday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m. at Garner Performing Arts Center. For more details, visit chambertheatre.com.

Spring Eggstravaganza April 12

The Town of Garner's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department will have its annual Spring Eggstravaganza on Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lake Benson Park (921 Bufaloe Road). **THE EVER-POPULAR EGG HUNT WILL BE HELD PROMPTLY AT NOON.** The festival will also feature entertainment, games and crafts, food vendors and a visit by the Easter Bunny. The rain date is Sunday, April 13 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.





Google Fiber Sets Its Sights on Garner

Town staff have begun working with Google to help bring ultra-high-speed Google Fiber internet and television service to Garner.

Staff in Engineering, Planning and other Town departments are assisting Google in gathering information about existing infrastructure, housing densities, permitting processes and other details.

Last month, Google announced that Garner, Raleigh and five other Triangle municipalities were on a list of 34 cities and towns around the nation that are in line to possibly receive Google Fiber, which can



provide Internet speeds 100 times faster than what generally is available now in the United States. Google will give an update on which of these cities and towns will get Google Fiber by the end of the year. The Kansas City metro area

is currently the only area that has Google Fiber. Austin, Texas, and Provo, Utah, are also slated to get the ultra-fast Internet service.

Although the service will be available only to residential customers, Google Fiber could offer economic development benefits to Garner. The service should help attract knowledge workers and entrepreneurs to town. In Kansas City, Google Fiber has helped encourage the launch of home-based start-ups, according to the [Triangle Business Journal](#).

The Town will keep citizens updated on Google Fiber developments.

Garner PD Welcomes New Team Members

The Garner Police Department welcomed three new members to the force—including an animal control officer and quartermaster—during a swearing-in ceremony last month.

Officer Mike Gale, Garner PD's new animal control officer, received certification as a professional animal cruelty investigator from the Law Enforcement Training Institute University of Missouri Extension. Prior to joining the Garner Police Department, Officer Gale worked for Chatham County Animal Control.

Jenni Pedulla, the department's new quartermaster, attended UNC-Greensboro and received a bachelor's degree in sociology and criminology. Before joining the Garner Police Department, Pedulla worked at the City-County Bureau of Identification as a criminal ID supervisor.

As Garner PD's quartermaster, Pedulla will be responsible for the chain of custody and processing of all department evidence as well as



Officer Mike Gale (from left), Jenni Pedulla and Officer Frank Hughes joined the Garner Police Department last month. Gale is the department's new animal control officer. Pedulla is GPD's quartermaster.

procuring and managing equipment and supplies.

Officer Frank Hughes joined the U.S. Army in 2005. He was stationed most recently at Fort Bragg. Currently, he is serving in the Army Reserves. Officer Hughes

graduated from the basic law enforcement training program at Wake Technical Community College in December.

Each of the three positions recently filled became available through attrition.



You can follow Garner PD on Twitter (@GarnerPolice) and Facebook (facebook.com/garnerpolice).